

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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REGION 7 25 FUNSTON ROAD KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66115

June 3, 1986

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Martha Rose Chemical, Holden, Missouri - Update

FROM:

George Hess GKH

FIRE/EP&R/ENSV

TO:

Charles P. Hensley Chief, EP&R/ENSV

On May 22, 1986, Loren Stafford, TAT, and I personally issued the attached 311 Notice Letters to Walter C. Carolan, Rose Chemical, and to the Office of ETI. Attached are the orginal receipts signed by Walter Carolan and ETI.

On May 23, 1986, Wood Ramsey, TAT, accompanied me to monitor the progress of the cleanup. When we arrived at the site at 1145 hours, it appeared the cleanup had not progressed much since my previous site visit on May 21, 1986. Oil was still visible in the creek below the storm sewer outfall.

A total of nineteen 55-gallon drums were filled with contaminated debris from the creek. The clean-up crew had pumped out two of the three compartments from the tanker which had caused the spill. The oil was being pumped to a steel tank in the main building. I questioned the ETI foreman on site, Gary Sondersted, as to whether they had received the 311 Notice Letter the previous day. Mr. Sondersted then proceeded to his office to call Don Seymour, ETI, when he returned he indicated Mr. Seymour had just gotten the letter. I explained the purpose of the letter and that the EPA was ready to issue a notice that the clean-up action by ETI, American Steel, Rose Chemical and Walter Carolan was improper and EPA would take over the cleanup under Section 311 of the Clean Water Act.

At 1300 hours, I talked with Phillip E. Badame, president of ETI, who indicated that in no way was ETI liable for the spill or cleanup. However, he agreed to expedite the cleanup and assist in any way possible. Mr. Badame authorized Mr. Sondersted to purchase the necessary equipment and indicated more personnel will be on site on May 27, 1986. Mr. Badame indicated he could be reached for further assistance at ETI's 24-hour phone number (716) 693-7700 or his home number (716) 691-1118.

Prior to leaving, I went over the following spill cleanup outline with Mr. Sondersted:

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SHE IN THE BRANCH

1. Remove oil from surface of the creek.

Excavate any soil with visable oil residue, with a minimum clean-up level of 2 ppm for PCB.

- 2. Continue offloading the oil in the tanker which caused the leak to a tank compatable with the oil.
- 3. Excavate contaminated soil around the storm sewer manhole (where the contaminated oil entered the storm sewer).
- 4. Clean the storm sewer line to remove the remaining oil.

I returned to the site on May 24, 1986, to monitor the cleanup. Pat Perrin was on site to supervise for American Steel Works. The cleanup was well underway when I arrived at 1100 hours. Oil was being removed with absorbant pads on the creek. ETI and American Steel had constructed some fences across the creek in the event of rain to catch the floating absorbent pads. I again went over the clean-up scenario with both Mr. Perrin and Mr. Sondersted. We agreed on the previously mentioned four points and agreed on the additional following items:

- 1. After the oil in the creek is cleaned up, pump out the tank farm pond (dock tank primary berm) and remove contaminated soil. A local contractor, John Hancock Construction, will do excavation on May 27, or May 28, 1986.
- 2. Clean oil out of the ditch and pond from intercepted storm sewer. Mr. Perrin indicated the storm sewer only drains the facility and will permanently be routed to the collection pond at the southwest corner of the property. He further stated it was not connected to the city system but collected surface water from the ditch along McKissock Street until the drainageway was constructed after the spill the previous week.

Mr. Sondersted indicated a bobcat should be on site Tuesday to handle drums and assist in the excavation of contaminated sediment from the creek. ETI and American Steel will sample the creek after the cleanup is completed and EPA will take some samples along the creek to confirm that the cleanup is complete and acceptable.

The TAT will continue to monitor the remainder of the cleanup. It appears the cleanup has made considerable progress since the May 23, 1986, site visit.

Attachments